

Good afternoon.

I am Mary Ann Chaffee, a resident at Wake Robin in Shelburne, Vermont. My husband Bob and I specifically chose a Continuing Care Residential Community in light of his health problems in order to ensure access to Skilled Nursing as well as the traditional levels: Independent, Assisted Living, and Memory Care. Wake Robin is the only CCRC in the state.

We are both native Vermonters. I grew up in Barre where my father served as Captain of the Police Force and Bob in St. Albans where his father was a mail carrier. Both of us paid our own way through the University of Vermont and met in our chosen profession: teaching. We each taught thirty-eight years. All but three of those 76 years were in the state of Vermont. Bob retired in 1992 after 29 years at South Burlington High School and I in 2005 after 35 years at Essex high School. We entered Wake Robin on November 7, 2018, at ages 80 and 89 respectively. It came as a very rude awakening to discover that the state of Vermont no longer permitted us to claim the medical deductions allowed by the Federal. Be apprised that we are not alone in our struggle to understand why members of the Wake Robin community are the only residents of the state of Vermont not permitted to use the medical deductions allowed by the Federal Government. Our friends and neighbors often share their financial concerns, especially in light of the inflation related 6.5% increase levied by the Corporation on all residents. We sincerely request that the medical deduction be reinstated to conform with the Federal deduction and remain more than grateful for your attention to this matter.

